

THE BEST Photoplay Department in WASHINGTON

Essayist Expresses Belief Film Will Outgrow Early Mistakes

The acceptance of a substance adulterated by poor scenarios, inadequate production, hit-or-miss direction and positively crude examples of acting, for the real spirit of the art of the photoplay—its manifestation, rather than its possibilities—has had much to do with the reluctance of a certain part of the thinking public to accept photoplays as a part of the dramatic art. As has been stated here time and time again, the photoplay is not and never will be a natural rival of the stage. There is, as a matter of fact, a difference between them as there is between bread and meat, painting and sculpture. The photoplay does belong to the drama as surely as does the stage. It is a sister art, almost a twin, but with totally different possibilities and totally different opportunities. The difficulty has been that most of the men who make motion pictures have deceived themselves, and by so doing have thereby deceived the public into believing it will take the place of the spoken drama.

They have fostered the feeling that has existed against the photoplay by just this attitude and have attempted to do some things with the screen drama that have served as the finest sort of arguments against it from the people who are most interested in the art of acting and whose support for the photoplay is very necessary before it will reach the great success its friends believe is its destiny, as great as the stage and on a complete equality with it.

It is for this reason that an essay recently published in book form by William Morgan Hannon, of New Orleans, who is by way of being a student of the drama and an authority on both the stage and motion pictures, is particularly interesting at this time.

Mr. Hannon's essay is called "The Photodrama: Its Place Among the Fine Arts." The author gives the photodrama a very high place indeed, during the course of his critical analysis of it. He declares he is not blinded in the least by the glaring errors of production that seem to be the rule in the photoplay. He has grasped the big possibilities of the wedding of the most elusive of arts with the most exact of sciences which is producing the photoplay. His essay is analytical and critical, but it is not in the least personal. In that it strikes an entirely different note from the usual attempt to be scholarly and write of motion pictures.

He states the American people should be proud of the newest of the arts, just as it is proud of its literary leaders, its artists, its sculptors, its musicians and its dramatists. He declares to be better that the photodrama has developed no great artists as yet—but he expresses the belief that it will outgrow the foibles of its youth and that the goats will then be separated from the sheep! G. M.

PHOTOPLAYS AND PHOTOPLAYERS

By GARDNER MACK.



RICHARD BUHLER.

The Washingtonian, who is also one of his native city's favorite actors, who appears in the World Film photoplay, "Evidence," at Crandall's today.

In Film and Continuous Vaudeville This Week

The programs presented in the continuous and the feature film theaters this week include several vaudeville and motion picture novelties.

COSMOS.

Laughable comedy, songs, and instrumental music, and a dainty tabloid comedy blending make up this week's bill at the Cosmos Theatre. The headliner is Barney Williams, whose comedy is of the laughable kind, while his partner, Leo De Lisle, offers a unique juggling exhibition, including a series of new feats with five silk hats that is laughable and difficult. Unusual songs, numbers are offered by Leo Felst, a tenor robusto, and by the Farinelli Trio of operatic singers. The comedy tabloid, "Caught," presented by Jean Weir and Larry Mack, has a pathetic side, as well as its melodramatic side. The singing and Marion have a pleasing acrobatic number.

CASINO.

Paul Pitching and his company in a novel musical act, and Raymond, the clown, from the Hippodrome in New York, were the two headline acts of this week's bill offered by Manager Foster at the Casino. The Pitching company appears in "The Rose Garden," and Raymond performed in a number of clever and laughable stunts. A favorite of the children was the act of the "Whitney Operatic Dolls," consisting mostly of operatic selections. "Too Many Johns" was the title of a skit offered by William Schilling & Co., a group of skilled comedians. Comedy and variety were another favorite, special interest being shown in the performance of Theodor Combs, winner of a prize in a recent perfect man contest conducted by a physical culture magazine. Hoban and Kelly had a rapid-fire line of jokes and new dances, and the motion picture feature was "The Master Mind," with Edmund Breese. Parrot post night will again be held on Friday.

CRANDALL'S.

Rockliffe Fellows, former leading man of the Poli Players, was the star at Crandall's Theatre in "The Regeneration," a play by Owen Killeen. A five act film version of the original play as shown at Wallack's Theatre in New York. The play is by Owen Killeen. An excellent cast supports Mr. Fellows, including Anna O. Nilsson, who plays the part of Mamie Rose. Several remarkable fights take place in the picture and most of the types needed and shown were of well known Bowery characters. For actual atmos-

phere these scenes of lower New York life show with particular vividness. Tomorrow and Friday Richard Buhler will be featured in "Evidence," and on Saturday William Farnum is featured in "The Wonderful Adventure."

LEADER.

The new policy of exhibiting feature productions was inaugurated at the Leader Theatre this week with the Equitable Picture Corporation's first release, "The Price," by George Broadhurst with Helen Ware in the leading feminine role. The supporting cast is unusually strong, among the numerous scenes are the first motion pictures ever made of the interior of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

The photography is excellent and the picture in its entirety displays the earmarks of good direction. This feature will be shown again today. Tomorrow and Friday Pauline Frederick will be featured in "The Eternal City." On Saturday and Sunday "The Melting Pot," with Walker Whiteside, will be shown.

STRAND.

At Moore's Strand Theatre Monday and yesterday Harold Lockwood drew large crowds in a new photoplay, "The Great Question," adapted from the play of the same title. Mr. Lockwood has the role of a rich young playboy, who is saved from the wayward path by the love of a good woman, played by May Allison.

Edwin Arden will be featured today and tomorrow in a photoplay of "Simon, the Jester," by William J. Locke, staged by Edward Jose. Henry Kolker will be seen for the remainder of the week in "The Big Game Man," a film adaptation of Rupert Hughes' successful drama, "The Bridge."

GARDEN.

The many admirers of Francis X. Bushman had an opportunity to see him in a filmisation of Jules Eckert Goodman's romantic drama, "The Silent Voice." Monday, yesterday, and today, at Moore's Garden Theatre. Playgoers will remember this play as being one of the strongest successes of Otto Skimmer, and it provides Mr. Bushman with one of the best roles in his eminent screen career. He is supported by Marguerite Snow, Helen Dunbar, and others. Tomorrow Marguerite Fischer will be seen in a pictorial version of Lloyd Osborne's novel "Instigation." Richard C. Travers will be featured on Friday and Saturday in "The Last Trail," a film adaptation of Henry Oyn's story.

Healthful Sleep

is necessary for the enjoyment and prolongation of life. During sleep Nature renews the vital forces of the body and restores the energy. Sleeplessness is one of the evil results of indigestion. To avoid it, keep the stomach well, the liver active and the bowels regular. The health of these organs

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NOTED MOVIE STAR IS NEARING DEATH

Mabel Normand, Popular Comedienne, Dangerously Ill at Her Home in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Sept. 22.—Mabel Normand, the motion picture comedienne, is ill at her home in this city and is not expected to live. Miss Normand has been ill for the past week, but the seriousness of her condition was not made public until yesterday. Her physicians state that she has a fighting chance, but barely that. The little comedienne is one of the most popular women, personally, in the motion picture field. A native of Boston, she was educated in Washington, D. C., and first attracted the attention of the motion picture makers while she was working as a model in an establishment in New York. She was one of the original members of the Keystone company and appeared in many comedy pictures with Mack Sennett, Ford Sterling and later with Charlie Chaplin.

Miss Normand has made herself very popular with the people of Los Angeles, where she has made her home for the past four or five years. She is regarded as the best comedienne in motion pictures and recently signed a contract with the Triangle Film Company at a high salary to appear in a series of pictures that company will introduce at regular theater prices. One of the last pictures in which she appeared was with Raymond Hitchcock.

Lincoln Park Citizens Urge Street Changes

Requests for a number of street improvements have been filed with the Commissioners by the Lincoln Park Citizens' Association for consideration in connection with the preparation of the annual estimates. The list includes the following thoroughfares: South-east—fourteenth street, from East Capitol to South Carolina avenue; Thirteenth street, from B to D; Massachusetts avenue, from Fourteenth to Fifteenth; A street, from Fourteenth to Fifteenth; Fifteenth street, from East Capitol to South Carolina avenue; Northeast—A street, from North Carolina avenue to Fifteenth; Fifteenth, from East Capitol to North Carolina avenue; Fourteenth, from B to C; East Capitol from Fifteenth to B street.

The board is making rapid progress in the compilation of the budget, which, by law, must be in the hands of the Secretary of the Treasury for transmission to Congress not later than October 15.

Congressman A. C. Hinds To Resign Office in 1917

Continued ill health has led Congressman Asher C. Hinds of Portland, Me., to decide to retire from Congress March 4, 1917, the end of the present Congress.

Mr. Hinds is known as a great authority on House precedents and parliamentary law.

Funerals

Mrs. Ellen P. Milliken. Funeral services for Mrs. Ellen Porter Milliken, who died yesterday in her apartment in the Netherlands, will be held tomorrow at her late residence at 10:30 o'clock. Private interment will be made in Arlington Cemetery.

Mrs. Milliken was a French cousin of Henry Ford, the automobile magnate, and great-granddaughter of William Rufus King, of Maine, a bust of whom occupies a place in the rotunda of the Capitol. She was the mother of Mrs. Samuel C. Lemley, whose husband was a member of the Treasury Department and her daughter, Mrs. Lemley.

Robert C. Cumberland. Funeral services for Robert C. Cumberland, who died Monday, will be held at his late residence, 607 Twenty-second street northwest, tomorrow at 2 o'clock. Washington Lodge of Elks will hold a "Session of Sorrow" at 1:30 o'clock and attend the funeral.

Albert E. Rupp. Funeral services for Albert E. Rupp, who died Monday, will be held at his late residence, 216 Rhode Island avenue northwest, tomorrow at 2 o'clock. Private interment will be made in Congressional Cemetery.

Alonso S. Eaton. Funeral services for Alonso Sabin Eaton, who died yesterday, will be held at St. Paul's Cathedral tomorrow at 1:30 o'clock. Interment will be made in Congressional Cemetery.

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